

cont  
C1  
spacer means for situating each of the rib units in a position which, when secured by the interconnecting means, is separated from each of the adjoining rib units.

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13. (Twice Amended) A bench comprising:

a plurality of interconnected rib units, each further comprising:

a first functional member defining a substantially planar, first functional surface for performing a first composite function for said bench;

C2  
a supporting member emanating consistently from one side of the bench;

wherein each supporting member of each rib unit is angularly displaced from its corresponding first functional member, independently of the remaining support members of said plurality of rib units; and

wherein said plurality of rib units are interconnected such that the independently angled support members define a pattern such that the composite of the supporting members provides support for said bench and its potential occupants.

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16. (Twice Amended) A bench comprising:

a plurality of interconnected rib units, each comprising:

C3  
a functional surface such that a composite of the functional surface of each of said plurality of rib units defines a substantially planar functional surface of said bench; and

a supporting member emanating consistently from either a front or a rear portion of said bench; and

wherein each said supporting member is configured according to a pattern, with

amt.  
C3

respect to adjacent supporting members, to define a composite supporting member which provides support for said bench and its potential occupants.

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